

this memorial and the appropriate urban design in relation to the U.S. Capitol and the U.S. Botanic Gardens, the Foundation should be given additional time for the continued fundraising, design and development that is necessary. If giving extra time is crucial to the successful completion of this memorial, it is only fair to give it. For these honorable veterans have already given us their time.

Indeed, allowing an extension for this memorial project is not new. We have granted other similar extensions for the completion of memorials. These extensions include the memorials to Women in Military Service for America, George Mason, World War II, Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Victims of Communism.

There are over 3 million living disabled veterans in this country, a number which unfortunately continues to rise as we remain engaged in the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts. Let us respect and honor the invaluable service of all past and future disabled veterans by ensuring that the Foundation is granted an extension necessary to complete the Americans Disabled Veterans For Life Memorial.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

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Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back my time.

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4275.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING LAND CONVEYANCE TO THE MISSOURI RIVER BASIN LEWIS AND CLARK INTERPRETIVE TRAIL AND VISITOR CENTER FOUNDATION

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3871) to authorize the Secretary of Interior to convey to The Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Interpretive Trail and Visitor Center Foundation, Inc. certain Federal land associated with the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail in Nebraska, to be used as an historical interpretive site along the trail, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3871

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. LAND CONVEYANCE, LEWIS AND CLARK NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL, NEBRASKA.

(a) CONVEYANCE AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of the Interior may convey, without consideration, to The Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Interpretive Trail and Visitor Center Foundation, Inc., a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization with operational headquarters at 100 Valmont Drive, Ne-

braska City, Nebraska, 68410, all right, title and interest of the United States in and to the federally owned land under jurisdiction of the Secretary consisting of 2 parcels as generally depicted on the map titled "Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail", numbered 648/80,002, and dated March 2006.

(b) SURVEY; CONVEYANCE COST.—The exact acreage and legal description of the land to be conveyed under section (a) shall be determined by a survey satisfactory to the Secretary. The cost of the survey and all other costs incurred by the Secretary to convey the land shall be borne by the Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Interpretive Trail and Visitor Center Foundation, Inc.

(c) CONDITION OF CONVEYANCE, USE OF CONVEYED LAND.—The conveyance authorized under subsection (a) shall be subject to the condition that the Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Interpretive Trail and Visitor Center Foundation, Inc. use the conveyed land as a historic site and interpretive center for the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail.

(d) DISCONTINUANCE OF USE.—If Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Interpretive Trail and Visitor Center Foundation, Inc. determines to discontinue use of the land conveyed under subsection (a) as an historic site and interpretive center for the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail, the Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Interpretive Trail and Visitor Center Foundation, Inc. shall convey lands back to the Secretary without consideration.

(e) ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Secretary may require such additional terms and conditions in connection with the conveyance under subsection (a) or the conveyance, if any, under subsection (d) as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To assist with the operation of the facility there is authorized to be appropriated \$150,000 per year for a period not to exceed 10 years.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) and the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Mexico.

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 3871, introduced by Congressman JEFF FORTENBERRY, would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Interpretive Trail and Visitor Center Foundation specified Federal land associated with the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail in Nebraska. This land would be used as an historic site and interpretive center for the trail.

I urge your support for H.R. 3871.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Ms. BORDALLO asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, this is a noncontroversial measure, and it contains appropriate safeguards regarding the property being conveyed for use as a visitor center for the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail.

We urge the adoption of H.R. 3871.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY), the author of the legislation.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Mexico.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3871, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey a Lewis and Clark visitor center in my district from the National Park Service to a well-respected nonprofit organization. As the sponsor of this bill, I encourage my colleagues to support this important legislation.

I would like to begin by expressing my sincere appreciation to the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. POMBO), the chairman of the House Committee on Resources, and the distinguished gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE), the chairman of the Subcommittee on National Parks, for their outstanding work on bringing this legislation to the floor. We appreciate it.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Nancy Hoch from Nebraska City, who has played such a key role in the construction of the visitor center and its ongoing operation. Her vision and leadership have been instrumental in making the center such an outstanding success.

The bill is very straightforward. It would simply convey certain Federal land near Nebraska City associated with the Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Interpretive Trail and Visitor Center to the related nonprofit group, the Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Interpretive Trail and Visitor Center Foundation, Incorporated.

The bill also authorizes \$150,000 annually for 10 years to operate the facility. It is important to note that the National Park Service currently provides about \$200,000 annually to subsidize operations at the center. As a result, enactment of this legislation would actually save the Federal Government about \$50,000 per year.

It is also important to note that I worked with the National Park Service in drafting the language for the bill, and this proposed conveyance fits with the long-range plans for the center. I also believe that it would be the most cost-effective option for the Park Service.

H.R. 3871 is cosponsored by both of my colleagues from Nebraska, Representatives LEE TERRY and TOM OSBORNE. A companion bill in the Senate, S. 1957, has the support of both Nebraska Senators, CHUCK HAGEL and BEN NELSON.

The Interpretive Trail and Visitor Center is an outstanding resource and an impressive facility. The nonprofit organization associated with it includes a committed group of individuals who have spent many years making the center a reality and ensuring that it provides a meaningful and educational experience for those who visit

it. This legislative action is needed to fulfill the original plan for operating the visitor center.

The Missouri River Basin Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center is truly unique. It is the only visitor center or museum in the United States to focus on the flora and fauna and scientific discoveries recorded by Lewis and Clark.

The Lewis and Clark Expedition was a watershed mark in American history. Two centuries later, the courageous story of these two outstanding explorers and the Corps of Discovery continues to inspire Americans of all ages. This legislation will help ensure that future generations will have the opportunity to learn about this remarkable journey.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would encourage my colleagues to vote for H.R. 3871.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and so I yield back my time.

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3871, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RIVER RAISIN NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD STUDY ACT

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5132) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of including in the National Park System certain sites in Monroe County, Michigan, relating to the Battles of the River Raisin during the War of 1812, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 5132

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "River Raisin National Battlefield Study Act".

SEC. 2. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY, MONROE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, SITES RELATING TO BATTLES OF THE RIVER RAISIN.

(a) *STUDY REQUIRED.*—The Secretary of the Interior shall conduct a special resource study of sites in Monroe County, Michigan, relating to the Battles of the River Raisin on January 18 and 22, 1813, and their aftermath to determine—

(1) the national significance of the sites; and
(2) the suitability and feasibility of including the sites in the National Park System.

(b) *REQUIREMENTS.*—The study conducted under subsection (a) shall include the analysis and recommendations of the Secretary on—

(1) the effect on Monroe County, Michigan, of including the sites in the National Park System; and

(2) whether the sites could be included in an existing unit of the National Park System.

(c) *CONSULTATION.*—In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall consult with—

(1) appropriate Federal agencies and State and local government entities; and

(2) interested groups and organizations.

(d) *APPLICABLE LAW.*—The study required under subsection (a) shall be conducted in accordance with Public Law 91–383 (16 U.S.C. 1a–1 et seq.).

(e) *REPORT.*—Not later than three years after the date on which funds are first made available for the study, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report containing—

(1) the findings of the study; and

(2) any conclusions and recommendations of the Secretary.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE) and the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Mexico.

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 5132 directs the Secretary of the Interior to study the feasibility and suitability of including certain lands related to the Battle of the River Raisin during the War of 1812 in Monroe County, Michigan, as part of the National Park System.

Currently, the main battlefield is occupied by an abandoned paper mill. The city of Monroe has received a \$1 million grant to clean up the location in preparation for possible listing as a National Historic Landmark. The National Park Service testified that there is intact archaeological evidence of the battle and that this site has impressive integrity as a battlefield if it is preserved.

I urge your support for H.R. 5132.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Ms. BORDALLO asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, while most Americans are aware of the significance of the Revolutionary War or the Civil War, the importance of the War of 1812 is not as widely understood.

The Dean of this House, Representative JOHN DINGELL, is to be commended for his experience and effectiveness in bringing this important legislation to the floor. It is always an honor to work with Mr. DINGELL, and we urge our colleagues to support H.R. 5132.

Mr. Speaker, it is now indeed my honor to yield as much time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL), the Dean of this House and the sponsor of this legislation.

(Mr. DINGELL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I intend to show my appreciation to the distin-

guished gentlewoman by revising and extending my remarks and also my respect and affection for the gentleman from New Mexico.

I rise to support the legislation. I urge the House to pass this legislation. It was the bloodiest battle. It commemorates the bloodiest battle in the history of Michigan, the bloodiest battle in the War of 1812, and the loss of 700 citizens and more, mostly from Kentucky, who came to Michigan to save it from the British and the Indians. The end result was that "Remember the River Raisin" became the battle cry in the War of 1812.

Our work today, I want you to know, makes a very important contribution to us remembering the history of Michigan, the history of the War of 1812 and matters important, not just to my people in Monroe, but to all of us.

I thank the gentleman from New Mexico and the distinguished gentlewoman from Guam and my friend, chairman of the committee, Mr. POMBO.

Mr. Speaker, in six years our nation will mark the bicentennial of the War of 1812. The War of 1812 is one of the least studied, but most important episodes in our nation's history. Following the Revolutionary War, America was a weak nation and was preyed upon by Britain, France and Spain. Britain aimed to re-conquer the newly independent former colonies.

The legislation we are considering here today will preserve one of the most important stories of that war, the Battle of the River Raisin.

This legislation, quite simply, would direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability of including the site of the River Raisin massacre into the National Park system.

The legislation already has support from the people of Monroe, Michigan, our governor, historians, archeologists and the National Park Service.

When the war broke out, it was expected that Britain would quickly defeat the poorly equipped and poorly trained Americans. Washington was burned, and British troops torched the Capitol.

Along the Western frontier, in what is today Michigan, Ohio and Kentucky, the war raged. When Detroit fell to the British a contingent of Kentuckians, under the direction of Gen. William Henry Harrison marched to retake the city.

On January 18, 1813 American forces crossed the River Raisin and attacked the British encampment on the other side. They forced the British to retreat. Four days later, British forces and their Native American allies counter-attacked. The Americans were routed.

When the British withdrew, they took with them any American who could travel as a prisoner. The injured were left. The next day, the Native allies returned and massacred the Americans and burned the surrounding town to the ground.

Of the 900 strong American force only 33 escaped death or capture. Throughout the American Army the cry "Remember the Raisin" rallied our troops. Soon thereafter, spurred by the memory of the Raisin, the Americans liberated Detroit and won the decisive Battle of the Thames in Ontario—guaranteeing America's victory in the war.